Scholarship to Minority Communities

383. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students from various minority communities benefited of various scholarship schemes aided by the Centre; and

(b) the details of thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) Community-wise and State-wise information on Pre-matric Scholarship, Post-matric Scholarship and Merit-cum-means based Scholarship is available at the website-www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Illiteracy among the Muslim women

384. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that percentage of illiteracy rate is very high among the Muslim women in the country specially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) 50.1% is the Muslim female literacy rate against national female literacy rate of 53.7% as per 2001 census. It has been estimated from 2001 census that the Muslim female literacy rate in rural areas is 43% against total national rural literacy rate of 46% in rural areas.

(c) The Ministry of Minority Affairs has three scholarship schemes and has earmarked 30% of scholarships for female students from the minority communities which include Muslims. Maulana Azad Education Foundation also gives scholarships to female students from minority communities, including Muslims. studying in class XI and XII.

Skill development and leadership training to minority women

385. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government is going to launch a scheme to provide skill development and leadership training to women belonging to minority community exhibiting entrepreneurial skill;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;